GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4105
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2007
TRIAL RUN OF DMU WITH COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS
Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have conducted trial run of DMU with Compressed Natural Gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the operating costs of CNG based DMU is lower in financial terms;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Railways to use CNG in their commercial operations?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): One Diesel Electric Multiple Unit (DEMU) has been converted into dual fuel engine with Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) at Diesel Shed, Shakurbasti and the trial runs with CNG are being conducted on Delhi − Rohtak, Delhi − Rewari and Delhi − Shamli Sections.

(c): Yes, Sir. In financial terms, the operating cost of CNG based DEMU is lower than that of the diesel based DEMU.

(d): The operating cost of CNG based DEMU is expected to be 25% lower than that of diesel based DEMU.

(e): Once the initial technology proving runs with single end is over, one full rake of DEMU will be converted to CNG for extended trials. Commercial operations are contemplated once trials are fully successful.

A project for conversion of 100 DEMUs into CNG based dual fuel mode DEMUs has been undertaken for proliferation of CNG based DEMUs.